

The Pocahontas Times.

ANDREW PRICE, - - - EDITOR.

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Think you truth a farthing rushlight to be pinched out when you will With your deft official fingers and your politician's skill? Is your God a wooden fetich to be hidden out of sight, That his dull eyes may not see you do the thing that is not right? -Congressional Record.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Internal Revenue Commissioner N. B. Scott was elected to the United States Senate by a majority of one, and his election will be contested by Col. Graw. At one time it looked like there would be a good deal of unseating done, but an agreement was reached whereby one seat in the Senate (Kidd and one in the House (Dent-Brohard) should be considered vacant. Senator McNeil made the nominating speech for Scott, and Oenton for McGraw, on the part of the Senate. On the part of the House, Hughes, of Tyler, and Davis, of Harrison made the nominating speeches respectively. Scott was elected on the first ballot. The two war senators voting for Scott will vitiate his election, if the United States Senate takes the view that the Democratic leaders hold. If not the election will hold good. Scott is not yet out of the woods, and he it Scott, or be it McGraw, he will laugh best who laughs last.

The committee which visited Grafton to count the ballots in the Dent-Brohard case found Dent to have a clear majority of 34. They were also satisfied from the testimony of the county clerk that the ballots had not been tampered with.

Scott will resign his present office, it to take effect March 1. There is a wild scramble for the place.

McGraw cannot succeed Faulkner, but he can make the fight for the party to prevent Scott taking his seat in the Senate. One reason is that 48 votes cannot elect when the body is composed of 97. The other is the "war senators" named above.

Scott is 57 years old. He was a Union soldier. He settled in Wheeling after the war and got work as a common laborer. He rose gradually as a merchant and afterwards as a manufacturer of glass and nails. He is at the head of several large plants in Wheeling. He is a "millionaire."

The contests instituted against Logan and others in the House have been dropped, as have the cases against Marcum and Ashby in the Senate. Our prediction is that Kidd (D.) will keep his seat in the Senate, and Brohard (R.) will be seated in the House. Then peace will spread her snowy pinions, etc.

We would like to give our readers some idea about the character of some of the proposed legislation but it is impossible to do so. While there is a fine tangle of bills in both houses, in reporting them the daily papers give nothing but the caption, and we have always understood that the legislators themselves find it impossible to keep up with the merits of the proposed legislation, and do not have an intelligent idea of a great many of the bills.

In 1897 an appropriation of \$19,000 was made to the Home Guards in pay for services rendered during the Civil War. A resolution requiring the disbursing agent to report his proceedings, was defeated in the Senate but on its coming up again it was agreed that a committee of two be appointed to report on the matter.

We are informed that the dissatisfaction with the game law of '97, as expressed in Pocahontas, is a true indicator of the feeling all over the State. A large number of petitions have been sent in, and the law will be thoroughly overhauled.

The legislatures are so arranged that there is trouble over the election of a United States Senator in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, Utah, Wisconsin, Washington, Montana, California, Nebraska, and Nevada.

FUR-BEARING ANIMALS.

That great hunter William A. Kelley of Brown's Creek was at the court-house last Friday, and after passing over that dollar which he has set apart every year for the Times, gave us the particulars of the killing of a red fox with his cane, which occurred in December, and which is a feat we have never heard of being equaled. He said: "I was walking through the woods and came to where the trees had all been cut down by the lumbermen. There on the sawed-off stump of a white pine was a fox asleep, lying with his head on his paws. I pointed my stick at him and thinks to myself, 'If I had my gun now old fellow I'd have you.' I thought I would scare him away and I took a few steps but he never moved. Then I decided to try to walk up to him. Just as I had my stick ready to come down on him he threw up his head. I struck him. The lick I gave him knocked him back, and before he could run I hit him again on the head and killed him." It was a very large fox and Mr Kelley marketed his pelt, which brought \$1.50.

In the year 1897 his sons captured and raised ten foxes which they killed for their pelts, feeding them to a great extent on squirrels and in 1898 in the same manner they raised six foxes, only they could not get squirrels for them, and consequently they did not do so well.

In the general discussion which followed three new ways of trapping foxes were suggested. When a fox goes through a field he takes the same route each time and goes in through the same crack in the fence. A naked trap set directly under the hole of the fence will catch him almost every time.

In a new-plowed field a fox will run along the furrow looking for food. If "cracklings" are strewn along and a trap set in a furrow he can be taken.

When a fox is holed if the trapper will gather a lot of leaves and stuff in the hole setting his trap in the midst of them, the fox in digging out will get his foot in the trap.

When mink skins were selling for three dollars each, Mr Kelley caught three in three nights by taking an English sparrow and putting it in a cleft stick in such a manner that it appeared alive. A trap was placed under it and the mink caught as he approached. The mink plunging back into the water was drowned, and the bait was never touched. On another occasion when in his field on the banks of Brown's Creek he found three otters. The water was shallow and his dog caught and killed them. Their pelts brought \$8.00 each.

The otter is as quick as a fish in water but very awkward on the land. About twelve years ago at the dead water on Williams River old man Hackett was watching a deer stand. An otter came swimming under the bank under the water. The hunter jumped down on it and held it against the bottom until it drowned. The otter bit him severely. He did not shoot it for fear of scaring a deer that might be coming in to the stand.

On another occasion the fresh tracks of two otters were seen on Swago Creek. The otters were evidently traveling from the Greenbrier to the waters of Williams River. A hunter took two dogs and followed them and came up with them on the waters of Mountain Lick Run and killed both. In traveling on land the otter is very slow up-hill or on the level. Down hill it slides the whole of the way and gets over ground with marvelous rapidity.

At one time the black fox was very plentiful in these mountains. It has the habits of the squirrel, living in trees. In size it is about as large as a house cat. Its pelt is worth about \$3. The female's maternal instincts are highly developed, carrying her young in her mouth from branch to branch of the forest trees when alarmed. The story of one's capture is as follows:

A hunter located one in a hollow tree on Mountain Lick Run, and getting a lot of dogs out the tree down. The tree fell and lodged and no black fox appeared. It was found that in falling it had lodged in such a manner that the only exit was stopped up. The capture was easy then. A hole being cut in the tree and the prize secured.

In the mountains west of us is also the rare black "fisher" fox, larger than a red fox, whose pelt is worth a fabulous sum. None of the party had ever participated in the death of one.

A CORRECTION.

We have received a letter from Observer Albert Ashenberger, of the Elkins Weather Station, informing us that a forecast received at this place on the 3rd day of January, 1899, by telephone, the day the news first reached us that a weather station had been established at Elkins, was not sent out by the Elkins Station, as their forecasts did not begin to be sent out until January 12. In our issue of January 12, we commented on this unauthentic forecast at some length, not doubting its authenticity. We beg leave to say that we are duly sorry to have done the Weather Bureau an injustice. The forecast for West Virginia that day was warmer, which turned out to be correct. We wish to call attention to the penalty for counterfeiting forecasts by act of Congress:

"Any person who shall knowingly issue or publish any counterfeit weather forecasts or warnings of weather conditions, falsely representing such forecasts or warnings to have been issued or published by the Weather Bureau, United States Signal Service, or other branch of the Government service, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof, for each offense, be fined in a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not to exceed ninety days, or be both fined and imprisoned, in the discretion of the court."

We wish to say further that the forecasts which have been received from Elkins since that station has been established have been uniformly correct, and, laying all jokes aside, that our section is greatly favored in having a Weather Station. This is not the only time we have gotten into trouble by trying to be funny. "We had seen so many jokes poked at the Weather Department, that we thought we would try it ourselves, and in so doing lived up to Aesop's fable of the Ass and the Lap Dog."

An Ass had seen the Dog playing with his Master's little Daughter, and thereupon at the first opportunity he ran to the little girl and jumped upon her with his Front Feet as he had seen the dog do, and hurt her severely. Then the Master came and gave the Ass a good beating.

FROST.

A little bit colder, but plenty of feed, and the sick are improving. A. J. Hook is driving in cattle from the East.

R. C. Shrader found one of his horses dead in the stable. H. M. Grimes is moving to worlds unknown.

Mrs. Abe Sharp, her son and Wise Harold have returned home from Marlinton.

Bliss Shrader, of Dille's Mill, has returned from Tucker County, and was in our town Thursday.

The Green Bank correspondent can find hammer mentioned in Isaiah 41:7. We do not know whether this is the first or not.

Preaching by Rev. Adamson at Mt Zion Sunday, February 5, at 10:30 A. M.; Mt Tabor 3 P. M., and at Frost February 12 at 10:30. TINCAPOLLABLE.

It is by no means certain that the Senate will confirm the treaty of peace in all its parts. Grave fears are felt by many patriots that our wonted season of uneventful industry is over for awhile, and that there are breakers ahead of the old Ship of State.

Ex - Attorney - General Garland fell dead of apoplexy while arguing a case before the Supreme Court in Washington.

Quay seems to have met his Waterloo in being unable to line up the Republican members of the Pennsylvania legislature.

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DOVE.

Some dry and cold weather is present. Asa McGraw, of Mill Point, was here on business last week.

Rev John McNeil has been visiting in this neighborhood during the past week.

Rev Watson Sharp preached an interesting sermon at Edray last Sunday.

Bad colds are the order of the day, and you can hear sneezing and coughing on every side.

Mrs Susan Carter, of Huntersville, spent a few days in this vicinity last week.

Rev Hogsett, of Mill Point, assisted by other ministers, is holding an interesting series of meetings at Hamline Chapel.

Mrs Martha Taylor died at 3 P. M. Sunday, after a lingering illness of several months, and was buried at the Edray grave yard on Tuesday.

The Pine Grove school is progressing finely under the management of Prof D. L. Barlow, who will soon be ready to begin his Normal. Five students from Randolph have arranged to attend it this term. It bids fair to become the most successful Normal ever taught in the eastern part of the State. MORE ANON.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in Chicago.

Hazen Bras, the popular South Side druggist, corner 69th st. and Wentworth-av., says: "We sell a great deal of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and find that it gives the most satisfactory results, especially among children for severe colds and croup."

For sale by Barlow & Moore, Edray; Amos Barlow, Huntersville; D. T. McNeil, Buckeye; E. I. Holt, Academy.

Congressman Layman quotes in a speech against leaving the "Old-time Way":

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Mrs Frances Sydenstricker.

Mrs Frances Sydenstricker died at her home near Ronceverte, January 23, aged eighty-five years and eight months. She had been a professing christian more than sixty years, in the pale of the Presbyterian church. She was the mother of two daughters and seven sons. Mrs Sydenstricker seems to have been impressed with a very profound sense of parental responsibility and consecrated her children to the service of her Redeemer. They all became pious in early youth. Four of the sons are Presbyterian ministers, one a member of the Baltimore Conference, two are ruling elders. One of these elders, J. M. Sydenstricker has been on the board of directors of Union Theological Seminary for twenty-four years.

Mr and Mrs Sydenstricker reared their children under the rules of rigid discipline, prayerfully and firmly training them up in the way they should go. When she passed away her heart was cheered by the assurance that none had departed therefrom and all had their faces toward the bright eternal morning she had long hoped to meet. A life-like her's has been suggestive of much that would be interesting to recount. By anticipation her character was delineated long since by the pen of that ready and inspired writer who indited the "good woman chapter" in the book of Proverbs. W. T. P.

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